

REMARKS

The purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to remove all multiple dependent claims from the above-identified application and to cancel Claim 21, without prejudice.

Consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested prior to the examination of the above-captioned application on its substantive merits.

Early consideration and allowance of the above-captioned application is respectfully requested.

Applicants also believe that additional fees beyond those submitted herewith are not required in connection with this communication. However, if for any reason a fee is required, a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge and/or credit Deposit Account No. **04-1105**, as necessary, for the correct payment of all fees which may be due in connection with the filing and consideration of this communication.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 26, 2006

David A. Tucker
SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Reg. No. 27,840

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